

List of all Pending Claims:

1. (Currently amended) A portable computing device comprising:
a keyboard controller having a first input for receiving keystroke inputs and having an output for conveying said keystroke inputs to a main processor; and
a secondary processor having an interface to said keyboard controller through a secondary bus, said secondary bus also being used to communicate with a battery module, wherein said keyboard controller also conveys said keystroke inputs to said secondary processor through said secondary bus, wherein said secondary bus is an I2C bus, and wherein said keyboard controller additionally receives inputs from a graphical pointing device that directs an indicator to move correspondingly about a computer screen.
2. (Claim 2 is canceled.)
3. (Claim 3 is canceled)
4. (Original) The portable computing device of claim 1 wherein said secondary processor includes an interface to a database that stores a plurality of names and corresponding contact information.
5. (Original) The portable computing device of claim 1 wherein said secondary processor includes an interface to a network interface, said secondary processor executing a World Wide Web browsing function in association with said network interface.
6. (Original) The portable computing device of claim 1 wherein said secondary processor includes an interface to a shared audio subsystem.

7. (Currently amended) A method for operating a portable computing device in a low-power mode, comprising:

receiving keystroke inputs by a keyboard controller;

said keyboard controller transmitting said keystroke inputs to a secondary bus, said secondary bus also being used to communicate with a battery module, wherein said secondary bus is an I2C bus; and

said keyboard controller refraining from transmitting said keystroke inputs to a main processor, thereby operating said portable computing device in said low-power mode, said keyboard controller receiving inputs from a graphical pointing device that directs an indicator to move correspondingly about a computer screen of said portable computing device.

8. (Claim 8 is canceled.)

9. (Claim 9 is canceled.)

10. (Original) The method of claim 7 further comprising a secondary processor, which interfaces to said secondary bus, searching a database that stores a plurality of names and corresponding contact information.

11. (Original) The method of claim 10 further comprising said secondary processor communicating with a network and executing a World Wide Web browser function in association with said network.

12. (Original) The method of claim 11 wherein said secondary processor executes a Java application program.

13. (Currently amended) In a keyboard controller, a method for operating a portable computing device, comprising:

receiving keystroke inputs by a keyboard controller;

determining if said portable computing device should be operated in a low-power mode;

said keyboard controller transmitting said keystroke inputs to a secondary bus, said secondary bus also being used to communicate with a battery module, wherein said secondary bus is an I2C bus; ~~and~~

said keyboard controller refraining from transmitting said keystroke inputs to a main processor based on said determining action, thereby operating said portable computing device in said low-power mode; and

said keyboard controller receiving inputs from a graphical pointing device that directs an indicator to move correspondingly about a computer screen of said portable computing device.

14. (Claim 14 is canceled.)

15. (Claim 15 is canceled.)

16. (Original) The method of claim 13 further comprising a secondary processor, coupled to said secondary bus, searching a database that stores a plurality of names and corresponding contact information.

17. (Original) The method of claim 16 further comprising said secondary processor communicating with a network and executing a World Wide Web browser function in association with said network.

18. (Currently amended) In a portable computing device which executes a power on system test (POST) program, wherein said POST program accesses a data structure resident in a memory element used by said POST program, wherein said data structure includes a plurality of data objects which instruct a keyboard controller to execute a method which comprises:

determining if said portable computing device is to be operated in a low power mode;

said keyboard controller receiving keystroke inputs;

transmitting said keystroke inputs to a secondary bus, said secondary bus also being used to communicate with a battery module, wherein said secondary bus is an I2C bus; and

said keyboard controller refraining from transmitting said keystroke inputs to a main processor based on said determining action, thereby operating said portable computing device in said low-power mode; and

said keyboard controller receiving inputs from a graphical pointing device that directs an indicator to move correspondingly about a computer screen of said portable computing device.

19. (Claim 19 is canceled.)

20. (Claim 20 is canceled.)

21. (Original) The method of claim 18 further comprising a secondary processor, coupled to said secondary bus, searching a database that stores a plurality of names and corresponding contact information.

22. (Original) The method of claim 21 further comprising said secondary processor communicating with a network and executing a World Wide Web browser function in association with said network.